

**In the Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for handling event triggers and re-authorization triggers in flow based charging, comprising:

(A) a TPF (traffic plane function) determining whether a bearer event matches an event trigger, if ~~it matches~~ the bearer event matches an event trigger, proceeding to step B, and ~~otherwise if the bearer event does not match the event trigger~~, proceeding to step C;

(B) the TPF requesting charging rules from a CRF (charging rule function) and proceeding to step C;

(C) the TPF determining whether ~~the bearer event matches a re-authorization trigger, if it matches, the TPF performing to perform~~ a re-authorization process.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said step B comprises: the TPF requesting a charging rule from the CRF, and receiving the charging rule selected and returned by the CRF.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said step B further comprises the TPF providing the CRF with the bearer event.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 2, wherein, if the TPF determines that the bearer event matches the event trigger, the TPF determining whether to perform a re-authorization process ~~said step B further~~ comprises said TPF determining whether said charging rule provided by the CRF is changed, if it is, ~~the TPF performs a re-authorization process, and otherwise, proceeding to step C~~ changes; and if the charging rule provided by the CRF changes, performing, by the TPF, the re-authorization process.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 4, ~~in said step B, if the TPF determines the charging rule provided by CRF is changed, before the TPF performing [[a]] the re-authorization process, the method further comprising: the TPF determining whether a the re-authorization is needed due to the changed change of the charging rule, if it is, TPF performing a re-authorization process, and otherwise, proceeding to step C.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 4, ~~in said step B, if the TPF determines a re-authorization is needed due to the changed charging rule, before the TPF performing [[a]] the re-authorization process, the method further comprising:~~

~~the TPF determining whether the bearer event matches a re-authorization trigger, if it matches, TPF performing a re-authorization process,~~

~~if the bearer event matches the re-authorization trigger, the TPF performing the re-authorization and the method further comprising: providing by the TPF an OCS (online charging system) with the bearer event, and otherwise,~~

~~if the bearer event does not match the re-authorization trigger, the TPF only performing the re-authorization process.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 4, ~~wherein said performing a re-authorization process further comprising: the TPF providing the OCS with the changed charging rule.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 32, wherein said performing a re-authorization process in step C further comprising: the TPF providing the OCS with the bearer event.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said performing a re-authorization process comprises: the TPF requesting re-authorization of a credit in ~~[[the]]~~ an OCS, and receiving an authorized credit from the OCS.
10. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said event trigger is ~~triggers are~~ provided to the TPF by the CRF.
11. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 23, wherein said re-authorization trigger is ~~triggers are~~ provided to the TPF by a OCS or via the CRF by the OCS.
12. (Currently Amended) A flow based charging rule (FBC) system, said system comprising:  
a traffic plane function (TPF) entity communicatively connected to a charging rule function (CRF) entity and an online charging system (OCS),  
wherein, when a ~~bear~~ bearer modification occurs, the traffic plane function entity first determines, using an event trigger ~~event triggers~~, whether to request a charging rule from the charging rule function entity, and then determines, using a re-authorization trigger ~~re-authorization triggers~~, whether to perform a re-authorization process with the online charging system.
13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein, if the ~~bear~~ bearer modification matches an event trigger, the TPF entity requests the charging rule from the CRF entity ~~and provides the occurred bear modification to the CRF entity.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein, if the occurred ~~bear~~ bearer modification ~~or the charging rule requested from the CRF entity~~ does not match the event trigger but matches a re-authorization trigger, the TPF entity performs the re-authorization process.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the TPF entity is further configured to provide the OCS with the occurred ~~bear~~ bearer modification ~~or the charging rule~~ during the re-authorization process.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein ~~the TPF entity is further~~ configured to ~~determine whether the charging rule provided by the CRF entity is changed before~~ determining whether to perform the re-authorization process, and, if one or more of the charging rule provided by the CRF entity changes and the bearer is changed or if the occurred bear modification matches a re-authorization trigger, ~~perform~~ the TPF entity performs the re-authorization process.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of 16, wherein the TPF entity is further configured to provide the OCS with one or more of the changed charging rule and ~~and~~ [[or]] the occurred ~~bear~~ bearer modification during performing the re-authorization process with the OCS.

18. (Currently Amended) A method in a flow based charging system, said method comprising:

when a ~~bear~~ bearer modification occurs, first

determining, using an event trigger ~~triggers~~, whether to request a charging rule from a charging rule function (CRF) entity in a flow based charging system, the determining performed

by a traffic plane function (TPF) entity in the flow based charging system; and then

determining, by the TPF entity using a re-authorization trigger ~~triggers~~, whether to perform a re-authorization process with an online charging system (OCS) in the flow based charging system.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the step of determining by the TPF entity whether to request the charging rule comprises:

~~requesting~~ if the occurred bear bearer modification matches an event trigger, requesting the charging rule from the CRF and ~~providing the CRF entity with the occurred bear~~ ~~modification.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, ~~further comprising before determining whether to perform the re-authorization process:-~~

~~—deciding whether the charging rule provided by the CRF entity is changed, and~~

wherein the step of determining, ~~using re-authorization triggers~~, whether to perform a re-authorization ~~request~~ process comprises:

performing the re-authorization process with the OCS if one or more of conditions that the charging rule ~~returned~~ provided by the CRF entity ~~is changed or if changes and~~ the occurred bear bearer modification matches the re-authorization trigger.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising: reporting, by the TPF entity, to the OCS one or more of the changed charging rule or the bear bearer modification ~~to the OCS~~ matching the re-authorization trigger.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein if the bearer modification does not match the event trigger the step of determining whether to perform a re-authorization request process comprises:

determining, by the TPF entity, whether the bearer modification matches a re-authorization; and if the occurred bear bearer modification matches the re-authorization trigger, requesting re-authorization of credit from the OCS and ~~providing the occurred bear modification to the OCS.~~

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein, if the bearer event does not match the event trigger, step C comprises: determining whether the bearer event matches a re-authorization trigger and, if the bearer event matches the re-authorization trigger, performing the re-authorization process.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the bearer event is a bearer modification event.